



MICHAEL P. STUPINSKI  
First Selectman

STATE OF CONNECTICUT • COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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PETER J. CHARTER  
Deputy First Selectman

LAURIE E. BURSTEIN  
ANN L. HARFORD  
A. LEO MILLER, JR.  
JAMES M. PRICHARD  
JOHN W. TURNER

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Monday, February 2, 2009  
Town Hall – Meeting Hall

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Laurie Burstein, Peter Charter, Ann Harford, A. Leo Miller, James Prichard, Michael Stupinski and John Turner

OTHERS PRESENT: Nicholas DiCorleto, Finance Officer; Peter Michaud, DPW Director; Doris Crayton, Human Services Director; Erin R. Graziani, Senior Center Director; Donald Davis, Emergency Management Director; James G. Connolly, President, Ellington Community Scholarship Association; Connie Yan, Journal Inquirer Reporter

## I. CALL TO ORDER:

First Selectman Stupinski called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to order at 8:28 p.m.

## II. CITIZENS' FORUM:

No citizens came forth to speak.

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. January 5, 2009 Board of Selectmen Meeting:

MOVED (HARFORD), SECONDED (CHARTER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 5, 2009.

B. January 26, 2009 Board of Selectmen Meeting:

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (TURNER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2009.

## IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Board of Selectmen Five-Year Goals:

Mr. Stupinski stated that the recommended five-year goals (**attached**) were discussed at the last meeting and he has received no further input to date. He asked if there were any further submissions. Mr. Miller noted that he would consider combining the two goals of adding a Town Administrator and a Human Resources person into one position. Mr. Stupinski reminded that this is simply a list of goals and not a proposal for specific action at this time.

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (CHARTER) AND PASSED [AYE: PRICHARD/CHARTER/HARFORD/TURNER; NAY: MILLER] TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN FIVE-YEAR GOALS RECOMMENDATIONS, AS PRESENTED BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADD TO NEW BUSINESS, ITEM J, *POSITION UPGRADE REQUEST FROM DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS RE: JACK RICH*

A. Tax Refunds/Abatements:

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (TURNER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,779.46 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TAX COLLECTOR AND AS SPECIFIED IN THE FEBRUARY REFUNDS/ABATEMENTS STATEMENT. (ATTACHED)

B. Waste Disposal Contract:

Attorney Ryan explained that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has notified American Waste, LLC that it is improper to use Town fuel in the operation of their trucks. American Waste, LLC is now facing a fine of approximately \$4,000.00, which they are appealing at no expense to the Town. At this time, it is unlawful to use Town fuel for this purpose; therefore, the practice has been discontinued. All American Waste, LLC has requested that the present contract be amended back to the original contract, which allows for All American to provide their own fuel. Attorney Ryan noted that the motion puts the contract back to the original bid without the fuel provision. Mr. Turner asked for clarification regarding the difference in the law as it pertains to school buses vs. garbage trucks. Attorney Ryan noted that the school buses are garaged in Town, whereas the vehicles belonging to All American Waste, LLC are not. Mr. Michaud presented a hand-out illustrating the comparison of the cost of garbage and recycling removal by contract agreement vs. by the proposed changed contract with fuel adjusted based on \$3.50 a gallon. The alternative to passing the motion is that All American Waste, LLC would provide the fuel for their trucks at retail cost which would be charged back to the Town.

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (HARFORD) AND PASSED [AYE: CHARTER/HARFORD/TURNER; ABSTAIN: MILLER/BURSTEIN/PRICHARD] TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH ALL AMERICAN WASTE, LLC TO INCREASE THE PER UNIT COST (ITEM V-a) TO \$13.00 AND REMOVE THE PROVISION (ITEM V-d) THAT THE TOWN WILL PROVIDE THE FUEL.

C. Senior Center Bus Replacement/2009 Grant Application:

Doris Crayton, Human Services Director, reported that the van presently being used has been aging and has cost nearly \$6,000 in repairs. She anticipates that expenses in 2009 may be greater and the van may be out of service for engine repairs. Ms. Burstein stated that she has been advised that when the van is out-of-service, cancer patients cannot get to their appointments. Ms. Crayton added that reliable transportation is very important to many residents of Ellington.

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (TURNER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON HEREBY AUTHORIZES SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$40,000 TO REPLACE THE SR. CENTER BUS.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT MICHAEL P. STUPINSKI, THE FIRST SELECTMAN OF THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON, IS AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE ANY OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS REGARDING THIS GRANT.

D. Ellington Community Scholarship Association:

Mr. Connolly, President, Ellington Community Scholarship Association (ECSA), presented a proposal requesting that the BOS amend the Town of Ellington motor vehicle tax bills to add a check-off box to allow taxpayers to voluntarily support the students of Ellington through donations to the scholarship fund. Mr. Stupinski referenced a memo dated January 29, 2009 from Ann Marie Conti, Tax Collector, in which she expressed that there would be expenses involved in making this change to the motor vehicle tax bill. She also noted that the lockbox system presently used would not have the ability to process payments in excess of the tax amount specified on the bill, requiring the Tax Office to maintain a separate account to book contributions. Mr. Stupinski stated that the first step toward establishing this change is to provide the necessary information to the Ordinance Committee. Mr. Stupinski asked Mr. Connolly to gather additional information regarding the success of this program in other towns, specifically the dollar amounts collected. Mr. Stupinski will request that Ann Marie Conti, Tax Collector, provide additional information regarding the financial impact of this proposal.

MOVED (BURSTEIN), SECONDED (CHARTER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMEND TO THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE THE DRAFTING OF AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP ORGANIZATION.

E. Request for Additional Appropriation to Replace Heating Unit at Hall Memorial Library:

Mr. Stupinski noted that this money was left in Capital Improvements until this appropriation was put in place. Once this goes forward, and it is approved by the Board of Finance, it will be removed from Capital Improvements.

MOVED (MILLER), SECONDED (BURSTEIN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF \$13,400 FROM FY 2008-09 UNDESIGNATED GENERAL FUND BALANCE TO REPLACE THE HEATING UNIT AT THE HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY, AS REQUESTED BY THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR AND PENDING BOARD OF FINANCE APPROVAL.

F. Korean War Memorial Plaque/Veterans Memorial Park @ Crystal Lake:

Discussion was held regarding the purpose of this plaque. Mr. Turner asked for clarification on whom the plaque includes, and Mr. Stupinski explained that this plaque is intended for Crystal Lake Korean War Veterans only. It is not intended as a town-wide plaque.

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO PURCHASE A KOREAN WAR PLAQUE, HONORING LOCAL KOREAN WAR VETERANS TO BE PLACED AT THE CRYSTAL LAKE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK.

Mr. Miller suggested that the above motion include a dollar limit.

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (BURSTEIN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AMEND THE MAIN MOTION ADDING THE WORDS "NOT TO EXCEED \$1,150.00".

G. Re-establish Ad Hoc Emergency Services Committee:

MOVED (MILLER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RE-ESTABLISH THE AD HOC EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE FOR ONE YEAR TO FEBRUARY 28, 2010.

H. Appointment of BOS Representative to Ad Hoc Emergency Services Committee:

Mr. Turner recommended Laurie Burstein to serve as the representative. Ms. Burstein responded that she will accept such an appointment, but stated that this committee meets on Thursday evenings, which will present a conflict for her on occasion.

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (HARFORD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT LAURIE BURSTEIN AS BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPRESENTATIVE, TO THE AD HOC EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE TO DECEMBER 7, 2009.

I. Appointment of BOF Representative to Ad Hoc Plan of Conservation & Development Implementation Committee:

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT JOSEPH WEHR, AS BOARD OF FINANCE REPRESENTATIVE, TO THE AD HOC PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE TO JULY 31, 2009.

J. Position Upgrade Request from Director of Public Works re: Jack Rich:

Mr. Stupinski stated that if this position upgrade is passed, the position now held by Mr. Rich will be eliminated and this upgraded position will replace it.

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO UPGRADE JACK RICH, DPW CREW CHIEF/SPECIAL PROJECTS PERSON, TO THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT WORKING FOREMAN (WPCA), EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$28.93, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: So noted, except as follows:

P. Boards, Commissions and Agencies:

1. Ad Hoc Emergency Services Committee:

Mr. Turner noted that he has asked to be on the agenda for next Tuesday, February 10, 2009 for the joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to submit the 12-month report of activity.

VII. SELECTMEN COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Personnel Committee:

1. Resignations: None

## 2. Appointments:

MOVED (MILLER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT DON DAVIS, PETER HANY, TERRY SHOOK, BRYAN HARVELL, MICHAEL VARNEY, ROBERT LEVANDOSKI AND ROBERT CLEMENTS, TO THE AD HOC EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM TO FEBRUARY 28, 2010.

MOVED (MILLER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED [AYE: MILLER/PRICHARD/BURSTEIN/HAFORD/MILLER; ABSTAIN: TURNER] TO REAPPOINT JOHN TURNER TO THE AD HOC EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE TO DECEMBER 7, 2009.

MOVED (MILLER) SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT EDWARD LUDWIG TO THE AD HOC EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM TO FEBRUARY 28, 2010.

MOVED (MILLER) SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT JOHN RACHEK TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS TO FILL A VACANT TERM TO JANUARY 31, 2012.

MOVED (MILLER), SECONDED (HARFORD), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT MORT HEIDARI TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TO FILL A VACANT TERM TO JUNE 30, 2010.

## 3. First Selectman: Annual Performance Review/ Salary Range/Increase:

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (TURNER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE SALARY RANGE FOR THE FIRST SELECTMAN'S POSITION (LEVEL E-8) FOR 2009-2010 REMAIN THE SAME AS FOLLOWS: MINIMUM RANGE - \$65,000, MIDPOINT RANGE - \$77,500 AND MAXIMUM RANGE - \$90,000.

Mr. Charter noted that Mr. Stupinski wishes not to be considered for a salary increase for FY 2009-2010, due to a difficult budget season and the anticipated cuts in municipal aid from the State. Mr. Charter added that the Personnel Committee concurred with Mr. Stupinski's request.

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (HARFORD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO HONOR MR. STUPINSKI'S REQUEST TO MAINTAIN HIS PRESENT SALARY WITH NO INCREASE FOR THIS BUDGET YEAR DUE TO DIFFICULT ECONOMIC TIMES.

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (HARFORD) AND PASSED [AYE: CHARTER/HARFORD/BURSTEIN/ PRICHARD/TURNER; ABSTAIN: MILLER] THAT THE SALARY OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN BE REVISITED AFTER THE 2009 ELECTION, IF THE CURRENT FIRST SELECTMAN IS NOT RE-ELECTED OR DOES NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION.

## B. Other: None

## VIII. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS:

Ann Harford: Shared Services - Ms. Harford requested a list of the Town's contracts that go out to bid, including the date each expires, as well as the duration of the contract. Mr. Stupinski recommended that Ms. Harford refer the request made by Shared Services to him and he will determine who can best provide the information.

Laurie Burstein: Library - More resources are being added and more space is being utilized. Ms. Burstein stated that there has been an increase in pre-school aged children visiting the Library, due to the recent closing of a pre-school. Ms. Burstein also reported that the Library may be participating in the Early Literacy program again this year.

IX. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT:

Mr. Stupinski reported that Ms. Burstein has agreed to attend a legislative meeting on Thursday, in his absence. Mr. Stupinski is not available as he will be attending a meeting with the Department of Agriculture at the same time. Ms. Burstein will represent the Town with testimony supporting a bill to support bonding for the YMCA. Mr. Stupinski added that he will request to have representation from the YMCA at the March BOS meeting. Mr. Stupinski also said that today he attended a meeting in Vernon hosted by Congressman Joseph Courtney for local elected officials regarding the President's Stimulus Package and provided handouts to the BOS summarizing the important points of the meeting.

Mr. Miller requested specific information on quotes for general medical insurance. Mr. Stupinski asked that Mr. Miller put his request in writing to him so that he can address it.

X. CORRESPONDENCE: None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (CHARTER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 10:13 P.M.

Submitted by

  
LouAnn Cannella

Approved by

  
Michael P. Stupinski

IV-A

## FIVE YEAR GOAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Michael P. Stupinski  
12/15/08

- Add Town Administrator to staff
  - Offset part of cost by reducing First Selectman's position to half time, with commensurate reduction in pay
- Construct at least 30 additional housing units like those in Snipsic Village
  - Appropriate land must be acquired
- Construct Community Center to serve both seniors and youth
  - Appropriate land must be acquired
- Acquire least one new affordable housing development (non-age restricted)
  - Utilize HOMEConnecticut program to leverage
- Acquire sufficient land in Ellington Center area for school expansion needs (buildings and fields)
- Construct new firehouse in Windermere section, as planned
- Implement tax relief program for seniors and the disabled who meet income guidelines
- Support YMCA in completion of new facility on Pinney Street
- Complete Old Crystal Lake School House renovation
- Acquire land for school and recreational use in Crystal Lake community
- Expand school facilities to accommodate developing needs
- Attract non-polluting commercial/industrial uses of airport property
- Continue support of Pinney House renovation
- Hire Human Resource person

Added: 1/5/09 BOS:

- Continue to add to open space by adding funding to the Open Space Fund
- Continuously improve Crystal Lake water quality
- Develop a master plan for Route 83 Corridor

[illegible]